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| To: | Commissioner For Patents Centralized Fax Attn: Examiner S. R. Mohamedulla | From: | Jeanette S. Harms, Esq. Phone: (408) 451-5907 Email: jharms@beverlaw.com |
| Fax: | (703) 872-9306 | Pages: | 8 (including Fax coversheet) |
| Phone: | (571) 272-1387 | Date: | March 15, 2005 |
| Re: | Serial No.: 09/941,453 Filing Date: 08/28/2001 Applicant: Numerical Technologies, Inc. Atty. Dkt. No.: NTI-024 | | |

Urgent **For Review** **Please Comment** **Please Reply** **Please Recycle**

● **Comments:**

FOLLOWING IS: PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Fang-Cheng Chang

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Atty.Dkt.No: NTI-745 (024)

Assignee: Synopsys, Inc.

Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR IDENTIFYING DUMMY FEATURES
ON A MASK LAYER

Serial No. 09/941,453 File Date: August 28, 2001

Examiner: Saleha R. Mohamedulla

Art Unit: 1756

Date: March 15, 2005Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Initial Comments:

Claims 1-12, 48-52, and 55-56 are pending in the present application. Claims 13-47 and 53-54 are cancelled. Claims 1, 6, 48, and 55 are amended in this paper.